

## Message Text

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APPROVED BY S/S

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EA - AMB. INGERSOLL

S/S-O: W.NEWLIN

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

S E C R E T STATE 003269

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, EEC

SUBJ: JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN TRILATERAL DECLARATION OF  
PRINCIPLES

1. UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM GOJ JAPANESE AMB YASUKAWA JAN 7  
CALLED ON SECY AND ASST SECY DESIGNATE INGERSOLL TO EX-  
CHANGE VIEWS ON TRILATERAL DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

2/ YASUKAWA SAID GOJ CONTINUES TO PREFER TRILATERAL  
DECLARATION BUT WOULD NOT RULE OUT BILATERALS WITH THE EC  
AND THE US IF THAT BECAME ONLY COURSE POSSIBLE. YASUKAWA  
SAID THE EUROPEANS B TH SINGLY AND COLLECTIVELY ARE PRESS-  
ING ON THE GOJ THE CONCLUSION THAT THE USG IS LOSING ITS  
INTEREST IN THE EC-JAPAN-US D\*CLARA ION.

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3. SECY REPLIED THAT EUROPEANS REMAIN OPPOSED TO THE TRI-  
LATERAL DECLA\*ATION AND ARE TRYING TO KILL IT BY MIS-  
REPRESENTING USG ATTITUDE. US REMAINS COMMITTED TO TRI-  
LATERAL AND SECY HAD SO-INFORMED EUROPEANS DURING HIS

RECENT DISCUSSIONS THERE, INCLUDING CONVERSATIONS WITH JOBERT AND POMPIDOU. SECY HAD STRESSED TO EUROPEANS THAT DECLARATIONS ARE NOT LEGAL DOCUMENTS TO BE INVOKED IN THE FUTURE IN COURT OF LAW BY SIGNATORIES AGAINST EACH OTHER BUT RATHER ARE DESIGNED TO REFLECT THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE INVOLVED. ON THIS BASIS THERE IS NO REASON FOR JAPAN TO BE EXCLUDED.

4. IN RESPONSE TO YASUKAWA'S QUERY AS TO HOW THE US AND JAPAN SHOULD NOW PROCEED ON THIS MATTER, SECY RESPONDED THAT WE MUST CONTINUE TO PRESS ON DOING WHAT IS RIGHT. JAPAN SHOULD STRESS TO EUROPEANS THAT JAPAN WANTS TRI-LATERAL DECLARATION AND USG WILL CONTINUE UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT. IF THE US AND JAPAN STATE THEIR POSITION FIRMLY ON THE TRILATERAL DECLARATION, THE EUROPEANS WILL FINALLY AGREE.

5. YASUKAWA ASKED WHAT THE US UNDERSTANDING WAS FOR THE EUROPEANS' OBJECTIONS TO THE TRILATERAL DECLARATION. SHOULD WE ACCEPT EUROPEANS' ARGUMENT THAT THEY WISH TO AVOID ORGANIZATION OF A "RICH MAN'S CLUB"? SECY RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT PLACE MUCH STOCK IN THAT EUROPEAN ARGUMENT. TWO SIMILAR BILATERALS ALSO WOULD CONSTITUTE A RICH MAN'S CLUB. REAL PROBLEM IS THAT EUROPEANS JUST WANT TO ASSERT THEIR SEPARATE "PERSONALITY" FROM THE US, AND GAIN RECOGNITION FOR EUROPEAN IDENTITY.

6. SECY SAID HE WOULD HAVE ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS IN FEW DAYS AS TO FURTHER REFINEMENTS OF TACTICS US AND JAPAN MIGHT EMPLOY TOWARD EUROPEANS IN REGARD TO TRILATERAL DECLARATION.

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